

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07904 060731Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
/066 W  
-----120713 060733Z /17  
R 060701Z SEP 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3313

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINT, KS  
SUBJECT: PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY LACKS FOUND-  
ATION

1. KYONGKYANG SHINMUN AND TONGA ILBO HAVE EACH CARRIED SMALL ITEMS IN PAST FEW DAYS (ALBEIT TONGA ILBO ON PAGE ONE) CONCERNING FORMATION OF NEW POLITICAL PARTY "CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY" (KIDOKYO MINSHUDANG). CDP HAD BEEN MENTIONED BRIEFLY IN PRESS LAST SPRING BUT NOTHING HAD BEEN HEARD OF IT SINCE. ACCORDING TO RECENT REPORTS, PARTY WOULD BE REGISTERED WITH CENTRAL ELECTION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE THIS WEEK. CHON SANG-SU, MAN ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR INAUGURATION OF PARTY, SAID 83-YEAR OLD PAEK NAK-CHUN (GEORGE PAEK) WOULD SERVE AS PARTY'S ADVISOR. PAEK, A FORMER PRESIDENT OF YONSEI UNIVERSITY AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION IN 1950, IS WELL-KNOWN, RESPECTED MAN WHOSE NAME WOULD BE OF USE TO ANY NEW POLITICAL PARTY.

2. EMBOFF SPOKE WITH DR. PAEK AT YONSEI SEPTEMBER 5 ABOUT PAEK'S ROLE IN ALLEGED CDP FOUNDING. PAEK SAID AN "UNEDUCATED, POSSIBLY MENTALLY-DISTURBED" MAN NAMED KIM CHE-POM HAD TALKED TO HIM ABOUT FORMATION OF NEW PARTY, BUT THAT HE HAD GIVEN PROPOSAL THAT HE SERVE IN SOME CAPACITY SHORT SHRIFT. PAEK SAID HE HAS NO INTEREST IN POLITICS ANY  
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MORE, KIM AND CHON HAD USED HIS NAME WITHOUT PERMISSION, AND FIRST HE KNEW OF HIS OWN ALLEGED ROLE WAS WHEN FRIENDS TOLD HIM THEY HAD SEEN HIS NAME IN PAPERS.

3. EDITOR IN CHIEF OF CHUNGANG ILBO TOLD EMBASSY THAT CHONG SANG-SU HAD COME TO HIS NEWSPAPER WITH PRESS RELEASE, BUT THAT HE CONSIDERED ANNOUNCEMENT OF PARTY

FAR-FETCHED AND TOSSED RELEASE IN TRASH. EDITOR SAID  
HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY TWO PAPERS WHICH HAD PRINTED  
STORY HAD BEEN GULLIBLE ENOUGH TO TAKE PRESS RELEASE  
AT FACE VALUE.  
GLEYSTEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, POLITICAL PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SEOUL07904  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780362-0459  
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**Subject:** PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ON CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY LACKS FOUND- ATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, KS, CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
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**Review Markings:**  
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